

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 292919 TOSEC 310376

41

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S:PSEBASTIAN

APPROVED BY: S/S:SEBASTIAN

----- 068835

O 011753Z DEC 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 292919 TOSEC 310376

NODIS

FOLLOWIIG REPEAT MASERU 1459 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 01 DEC

QTE

S E C R E T MASERU 1459

NODIS

FROM SCHAUFEELE

DEPT PASS LAGOS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XJ SF WA RH LT

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH GARBA

REF: MASERU 1437

1. AFTER I HAD MADE CONFERENCE STATEMENT TAKING ISSUE WITH SOME OF NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GARBA'S OPENING PUBLIC REMARKS TO WHICH HE MADE BRIEF REPLY, HE AND I MET FOR ONE HOUR CONVERSATION MOST OF WHICH WAS RELATIVELY AMICABLE REHASH OF PREVIOUS GROUND.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 292919 TOSEC 310376

WM REGARDING HIS STATEMENT HERE I SAID THAT NIGERIAN PROTESTATIONS OF DESIRE FOR IMPROVED BILATERAL RELATIONS SEEMED SOMEWHAT INCONSISTENT WITH WHOLLY NEGATIVE TONE OF HIS STATEMENT. GARBA MAINTAINED STATEMENT SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS NEGATIVE BUT AS FRANK EXPRESSION NOT ONLY OF NIGERIAN VIEWS BUT, SINCE NIGERIA SPEAKS FOR AFRICA, AS WELL. I POINTED OUT HIGHLY CONTENTIOUS ASPECTS SUCH AS US INABILITY TO PUT PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA OVER NAMIBIAN QUESTION IN EXCHANGE FOR VORSTER'S HELP WITH RHODESIA AND "TALKS ON US-SAG DEFENSE AGREEMENT TO PROTECT CAPE ROUTE." I THINK MY POINT WAS UNDERSTOOD IF NOT EXPLICITLY ACCEPTED.

2. MAJOR SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION WAS NAMIBIA UPON WHICH GARBA WAS NOT FULLY INFORMED SINCE HE WAS NOT PRESENT FOR CROSBY MEETING WITH OBASANJO AND NUJOMA. I WENT OVER POINTS WE HAD PREVIOUSLY COMMUNICATED IN SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO OBASANJO. THEN, REVERTING TO GARBA'S PUBLIC INSISTENCE THAT USG COULD ACHIEVE INDEPENDENCE IN NAMIBIA WITHIN ONE YEAR, SAID THIS WAS MANIFESTLY IMPOSSIBLE.

3. GARBA MAINTAINED THAT IF USG PUT ADEQUATE PRESSURE ON SAG THIS COULD BE ACHIEVED. IN REPLY I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD HEARD THIS-OR SOMETHING LIKE IT-FOR SEVERAL YEARS. IT MIGHT BE USEFUL RHETORIC IN SLOW-MOVING OR STATIC SITUATION BUT WAS NOT REALISTIC OR APPLICABLE WHEN REAL PROCESS FOR CHANGE WAS GOING ON. US DID NOT HAVE KIND OF LEVERAGE WHICH HE SEEMED TO THINK WE HAD. WE ARE TALKING ABOUT A NEGOTIATING PROCESS-NOT CAPITULATION-AND NEGOTIATION BY DEFINITION MEANS MUTUAL CONCESSIONS. SAG HAD MADE SOME CONCESSIONS AND WE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE TO GET OTHERS BUT WE NEED TO HAVE A BETTER IDEA OF WHAT SWAPO AND AFRICANS WILL AGREE TO.

3. GARBA MADE USUAL REFERENCES TO OAU AND UN RECOGNITION OF SWAPO AND PHONY TURNHALL CONFERENCE. BUT MOSTLY HE STRESSED MORAL AND LEGAL ARGUMENT AGAINST CONTINUED SOUTH AFRICAN OCCUPATION OF NAMIBIA. I HAD THE FEELING, WHEN HE WAS FINISHED, THAT THIS WAS FOR THE RECORD.

4. WITHOUT TAKING ISSUE WITH HIS REMARKS I NOTED THAT WE WERE NOW TALKING ABOUT SETTLEMENT, WHICH I THOUGHT WOULD BE IN SWAPO INTEREST.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 292919 TOSEC 310376

SOUTH AFRICA WILL NOT CAPITULATE BUT UNDER HEAVY US PRESSURE HAD DEMONSTRATED WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE. THEREFORE US HAD BEEN DOING WITH SOUTH AFRICA WHAT IT SAID IT WOULD AND WAS PREPARED TO CONTINUE. WERE AFRICA AND NIGERIA, IN PARTICULAR, PREPARED TO DO THE SAME WITH SWAPO?

5. GARBA ANSWERED FIRMLY IN AFFIRMATIVE AND SEEMED TO DEMONSTRATE GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF PROCESS OF COMPROMISE WHICH IS

NECESSARY TO GET FORWARD MOVEMENT.

6. COMMENT: I THINK WE MADE SOME HEADWAY WITH GARBA WHOSE INFLUENCE AT HOME, HOWEVER, IS STILL SOMEWHAT QUESTIONABLE. FOR WHATEVER ENLIGHTENMENT IT MAY HAVE PROVIDED THEM SOME AMERICANS HERE, WHO ARE LESS THAN WILLING TO REPLY TO AFRICAN ATTACKS ON US, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT AWARE OF CONTENTS OUR BILATERAL MEETING, HAD OPPORTUNITY TO WITNESS FACT THAT RESPONSE TO UNJUSTIFIED ATTACKS ON US CAN LEAD TO BETTER DIALOGUE THAN SIMPLY RECEIVING THEM IN SILENCE.

7. NIGERIAN AMBITIONS FOR AFRICAN LEADERSHIP BECOMING MORE AND MORE PRONOUNCED, TO EXTENT SOME AFRICANS HERE PRIVATELY REFER TO NIGERIAN "IMPERIALISM" IN AFRICA. STOKES UNQTE ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INDEPENDENCE, TOSEC, CAT-B, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE292919
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:PSEBASTIAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760008-0693
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761281/aaaacsut.tel
Line Count: 129
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 MASERU 1437
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONVERSATION WITH GARBA
TAGS: PFOR, XJ, SF, WA, RH, LT, SWAPO, (GARBA, JOSEPH N)
To: SECRETARY LAGOS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006